

FISCAL NOTE

SB 461 – HB 2073

March 19, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes volunteer school personnel with proper training to administer anti-seizure medications to a student in an emergency situation in accordance with the student's individual health plan (IHP). If the school does not have a full-time nurse or school personnel to administer such medication, such school shall provide a full-time nurse on school premises as soon as the school is notified of the child's prescription for anti-seizure medication.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures* - \$6,120,000

Assumptions:

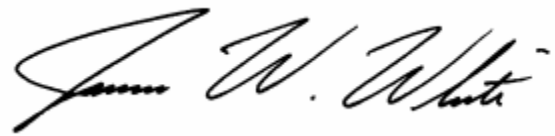
- The BEP generates funding for school nurses on the basis of 1:3000 ADM.
- Each LEA is required to employ at least one school nurse. An LEA that contracts for nursing services satisfies this requirement.
- There are currently 657 school nurses employed/contracted in 1,699 public schools in Tennessee.
- Under the provisions of the bill, any school unable to identify volunteer school personnel to perform this task shall provide a full-time nurse on school premises as soon as the school or school district is notified that a child zoned to that school has been prescribed anti-seizure medication.
- For purposes of this bill, it is assumed that trained volunteers would not be available in all schools or situations, thereby requiring at least one additional school nurse per LEA to provide this service.
- The average salary for a school nurse in Tennessee is \$45,000 including benefits.
- Estimated cost to LEAs for additional school nurses is \$6,120,000 (\$45,000 x 136 LEAs).
- Since volunteers could change often, frequent training would be required; however, training could be administered by the nurse.
- Any cost to the Department of Health and the Department of Education to jointly amend current "Guidelines for Use of Health Care

Professionals and Health Procedures in a School Setting” is estimated to be not significant and can be handled within existing budgets.

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director